requirement for the urban population. They say if that be the requirement, the pipe-line will be of bigger size. Such technical objections are being made and the file is being kept pending.

Madam, the Maharashtra Government has already announced its determination to discontinue water supply by tankers to 21,000 water-scarce villages by the year 2000. In Latur also, water is being supplied with the help of tankers. When there is no constraint of funds, this scheme has got to be implemented. My question to the hon. Minister is when he is going to sanction the augmentation of water supply scheme to Latur. Please clear the technical objection, if there is any.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: Madam, from amongst the schemes submitted by the Goverment of Maharashtra, four have already been approved.

In regard to the augmentation of water supply scheme to Latur, a reply on it has been received from the State Government just two or three days back. The Government will certainly look into it and do whatever is needed at its earliest.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question No. 125. Dr. Venkateswarlu, you are getting up again and again to answer questions. You can keep sitting while replying. Nobody would mind. Perhaps you like this exercise.

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Madam, that will be a little physiotherapy.

Printing Presses under the Directorate of Printing

*125. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:†

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many printing presses are working under the Directorate of Printing under the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment;

(b) whether all the modern equipments have been installed in these presses;

(c) if not, to what extent the modernisation has been possible;

(d) whether these presses are running in profit; and

(e) what steps would be taken to increase their efficiency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) 21 Printing Presses are working under the Directorate of Printing under Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment.

(b) and (c) Out of 21 Presses, 8 Presses have been fully modernised by inducting offset Technology. One Press is under modernisation. 7 Printing Presses have been partially modernised and 5 Presses are still working with old technology. Details may be seen in the Statement-I (See below) Expenditure incurred on modernisation of Government of India Presses, during the last 10 years is given in the Statement-II (See below) Out of modernisation programme taken up for 16 Presses 2 Presses, namely, Govt. of India Press, Minto Road and Govt. of India Press, Ring Road, New Delhi were taken up under the Plan Scheme and the remaining 14 under the Non-Plan Scheme.

During the last few years following modernisation work were taken up:—

(i) Modernisation of Government of India Press, Ring Road, New Delhi was started during the 8th Five Year Plan. The work will be completed by 1997-98;

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Dr. Shrikant Ramchandra Jichkar.

(ii) Partial modernisation of Government of India Press, Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi under Non-Plan Scheme was taken up in 1995-96 and the work has since been completed;

(iii) Partial modernisation of Government of India Press (Letterpress Unit), Faridabad has been taken up. The scheme has been aproved and the preliminary work has since been started as a Non-Plan Scheme.

The modernisation of the remaining 5 Presses will be taken up after a decision on restructuring/retention of Presses is taken by the Government and depending upon the availability of resources.

(d) Government of India Presses function as Service Department and work on "No profit no Loss" basis. Cost of printing is recovered from the indenting Departments.

(e) The following steps have been taken to increase the efficiency of the Presses:—

1. Monitoring/review of the Presses through monthly Managerial Control Returns.

2. Improving capacity utilisation of the Presses through balancing manpower and equipments;

3. Proper Training in new technology to the concerned employees;

4. Adequate and timely supply of inputs like paper and raw materials etc.

5. Improving printing quality through use of modern techniques;

6. Periodical inspection of Presses by higher Officers of the Directorate of Printing; and

7. Better control.

Statement-I

Directorate of Printing

Status of the Government of India Presses

Modernised Presses (Offset Technology)	Partially modernised (Letter Press/Offset Technology)	Old Technology (Letter Press)
1. Govt. of India Press, Minto Road, (Photolitho Unit), New Delhi (D.S.)	1. Govt. of India Press (Letter Press Unit) Faridabad (D.S.)	1. Govt. of India Press (Pub. Unit) Santragachi. (D.S.)
2. Govt. of India Taxt, Books Press, Chandigarh (D.S.)	2. Govt. of India Press, Nilokheri (D.S.)	2. Govt. of India Press (Forms Unit), Santragachi (D.S.)
3. Govt. of India Text Book Press, Mysore (S.S.)	3. Govt. of India Press Nashik (D.S.)	3. Govt. of India Press, Gangtok (D.S.)
4. Govt. of India Text Books Press, Bhubaneshwar (S.S.)	4. Govt. of India Press, Coimbatore (D.S.)	4. Govt. of India Press (D.S.) (Letterpress Unit) Minto Rd.
5. Govt. of India Press, (Photolitho Unit) Faridabad (D.S.)	5. Govt. of India Press, Rashtrapati Bhavan (S.S.)	5. Govt. of India Press, Shimla (S.S.)
6. Govt. of India Patent Ptg. Press, Mumbai (S.S.)	6. Govt. of India Press, Aligarh (D.S.)	
7. Govt. of India Press, Wellington (S.S.)	7. Govt. of India Press Temple (D.S.)	

Modernised Presses (Offset Technology)	Partially modernised (Letter Press / Offset Technology)	Old Technology (Letter Press)
8. Govt. of India Press, Koratty (D.S.)		
9. Govt. of India Press, Ring Road, Mayapuri (D.S.) (Under modernisation & will be completed during the year 1997-98)		

D.S. — Double Shift
S.S. — Single Shift

Statement-II

Expenditure incurred in modernisation of Govt. of India Presses during the last ten years.

NAME OF THE PRESS	Amount in Lakhs
1. Govt. of India Press, Nashik	300.00
2. Govt. of India Press, Aligarh	119.00
3. Govt. of India Press, Minto Rd. (PLU)	1230.00
4. Govt. of India Press, Ring Road	300.00
5. Govt. of India Press, Temple St. Calcutta	40.00
6. Govt. of India Press, Rashtrapati Bhavan	6.25
7. Govt. of India Press, Coimbatore	54.00
8. Govt. of India Press, Koratty	74.00
9. Govt. of India Press, Nilokheri	40.00
10. Govt. of India Press, Faridabad (LPU)	55.00
11. Govt. of India Press, Wellington	7.25
	Total: 2225.50
12. Govt. of India Text Books Press, Mysore	The Text Books Presses were set up with the gifted machinery & equipment donated by Federal Republic of Germany.
13. Govt. of India Text Books Press, Chandigarh	
14. Govt. of India Text Books Press, Bhubaneshwar	
15. Govt. of India Patent Printing Press, Mumbai	Originally installed as Offset Printing Press.

During the 9th Five Year Plan an amount of Rs. 6 crores has been provided for part modernisation of Govt. of India Press, Nashik, Faridabad (PLU), Rashtrapati Bhavan and modernisation of the binding section of Govt. of India Press. The scheme for part modernisation of Govt. of India Press, Faridabad (PLU) has been approved under non-plan for Rs. 1.55 crores. Preliminary work for the same has since been started.

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Madam, I want to ask one basic question. What is the concept of modernisation? In reply the hon. Minister has said out of the 21 Presses, 8 Presses have been fully modernised, inducting offset technology. Offset technology is not a modern technology. It is more than 50 year old.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It should be an obsolete technology.

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Yes, it is an obsolete technology.

Now, out of 21 Presses, they have done modernisation to 8 by inducting offset technology. Madam, kindly see the answer. I do not want to criticise the hon. Minister, but in good time he should ask his officers about the way they have drafted the reply.

They have said, "The following modernisation works were taken up." Now, what sort of modernisation was taken up? They have taken up modernisation of the Government of India Press, Ring Road, New Delhi. They have taken up modernisation of the Government of India Press, Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi. They have taken up modernisation of the Government of India Press, Faridabad. What sort of modernisation are they doing there? So, my question is: What is your concept of modernisation? I would like to know whether this modernisation includes latest technology like computer-based technology, laser-based technology? Are they included or not?

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: Madam Deputy Chairman, a very, very technically-oriented question has been raised by the hon. Member. I may not be in a position to provide an answer to this question in the same technical language. But as far as the Government of India Presses are concerned, they are actually performance-based. So, whatever amount that we have spent on these presses, these Preses, the utilisation part of it is still very, very low. We have been able to utilise only to the extent of 40 per cent of the total efficiency of the presses even with the present level of modernisation. So, here the question is whether any further modernisation of these presses is needed by spending much more amount and whether these presses have captive clientele. Now our captive clienteles are the Government Departments. As far as the Government of India presses are concerned, this is a major bottleneck. Regarding the offset technology whether it is the latest technology, I do not dispute your comments. I have been told by my people that it is the latest technology. This offset technology has been provided to eight presses, as has already been mentioned in my main reply.

Regarding the hon. Member's suggestion for laser technology, etc., etc., for the last few months I have it in my mind. As far as the performance of these presses is concerned, I will certainly constitute a committee to go into the details of the technologies of these presses which are utilising them. As far as the Government presses are concerned, 21 presses have improved the situation.

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Madam, in spite of the hon. Minister's accident he is fully seized of the matter. ..*(Interruptions)*.. I can understand his anxiety. If the modern technology is not costing much and if it brings in more efficiency, he can dovetail this modern technology to suit his needs because those options are also available.

Madam, my second supplementary pertains to old technology. In the list of old technology names of five letter presses have been given. As the Minister has himself said, even in the offset technology the utilisation is only 45 per cent. What is his policy with regard to five letter presses? Is he going to close them or is he going to merge them or is he going to modernise them; What is his policy with regard to these five letter presses? Letter press technology is an old technology. If something is printed by the letter press technology process, nobody reads these days. What is his policy with regard to these five presses?

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: Madam, as far as these five presses are concerned, there was a decision of the Government to close down these presses much earlier, long back. As early as 1986, when a decision was taken by the Union Government to close down these presses, this matter was raised in both the Houses of Parliament saying that these presses should not be closed. So, again the Government had rethinking about these presses. These presses are still being continued. This is the position of those presses. The latest position is that the Government has not made up its mind or taken any decision to close down these presses. The same position continues.

श्री ओम प्रकाश कोहली: महोदया, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि सरकार की मुद्रण संबंधी आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने की दृष्टि से क्या सरकारी मुद्रणालयों की केपेसिटी या क्षमता पर्याप्त है या नहीं और किन कारणों से सरकार को गैर सरकारी प्राईवेट प्रिंटिंग प्रेसेज में छपाई करवानी पड़ती है और आठवीं योजना में कुल मिलाकर गैर सरकारी क्षेत्र के मुद्रणालयों को कितना पेमेंट करना पड़ा है?

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: Madam, may I request the hon. Member to repeat his question? I could not follow as to what he meant by "paying money to the private presses."

SHRI O.P. KOHLI: I would like to know whether the capacity of the Government press is sufficient to cater to the demand of the Government. What are the reasons for getting the services of private presses and what amount was paid to them during the Eighth Plan?

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: Madam, only half a per cent, that is, 0.5 per cent work of the total work of the Central Government Departments had been given to private presses. It is not more than that, and that too, for works of urgency where some invitation cards of the Government are required to be printed or something like that. In such cases, they come to the Directorate of Printing of the Union Government, requesting for a no-objection certificate, and when that particular type of technology is not available, the Directorate of Printing has given the no-objection certificate. The whole thing is only to the extent of 0.5 per cent of the total work. As far as the amount that was paid to them is concerned, I will send the particulars of the amount so paid to the hon. Member.

SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Madam, the Minister has given a detailed reply for which I am thankful to him. At the same time, from the olden days, we have been talking about our Nasik Press where our currency notes are printed. The modernisation of presses is also being carried on by the Government. But now I am told that the Government of India is going to print currency notes abroad. I do not know whether our printing capacity has gone down or the level of security required for printing currency notes has come down. What is the reason for that?

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: Madam, I need a separate notice to answer this question.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Madam, money is already being printed outside the country. *(Interruptions)*

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: Madam, the printing of currency is being looked after by the Finance Ministry.

*126. [*The Questioners (Shri V. Rajeshwar Rao and Dr. Shrikant Ram Chandra Jichkar) were absent. For answer, vide col.... infra.]*

Setting up of a major hospital in Nagpur

*127. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to stae:

(a) whether Government have received any representation for setting up a major hospital at Nagpur (rural) in Maharashtra, exclusively for the rural women of the Vidarbha region, to provide treatment for their gynaecological diseases and provide maternity services;